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Administration  
Facsimile 687-5856

Water Quality Planning  
Water Pollution Control  
Facsimile 687-4684

Mining Regulation & Reclamation  
Facsimile 684-5259

State of Nevada  
KENNY C. GUINN  
*Governor*



ALLEN BIAGGI, *Director*

Air Pollution Control  
Air Quality Planning  
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Corrective Actions  
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
**DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138  
Carson City, Nevada 89706

June 16, 2005

Notice of Proposed Action

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for renewal of a Water Pollution Control Permit for the AA Block Project, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for renewal of Water Pollution Control Permit NEV0090060 is:

Barrick Goldstrike Mines Inc.  
P.O. Box 29  
Elko, Nevada 89803

The facility is located in Elko and Eureka Counties, within Sections 23-27 and 34-36, Township 36 North, Range 49 East, and Sections 19, 20, and 28-30, Township 36 North, Range 50 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, approximately 27 miles northwest of the town of Carlin, Nevada.

The project consists of mining and beneficiation facilities, designed to extract precious metals, with a maximum permitted production rate of 8,000,000 tons of ore per year. The project is comprised of the Betze-Post open pit mine, waste rock disposal areas, and beneficiation and refinery operations including closed heap leach pads, associated ponds, ore stockpiles, a mill and autoclave process circuit, a tailings impoundment and seepage collection tank, and ancillary facilities (e.g. pipelines). Facilities are required to be designed, constructed, operated and closed without any discharge or release in excess of those standards established in regulation except for meteorological events which exceed the design storm event.

The Administrator is constrained to either issue the renewed Water Pollution Control Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to issue the renewed permit.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed Water Pollution Control Permit, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation into the permit, or who request a public hearing pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code, NAC Chapter 445A, must submit their written comments, objections, or requests no later than 5:00 PM on the 30th day following the date of publication of this notice to:

Division of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation  
333 West Nye Lane, Room 138  
Carson City, Nevada 89706-0851

All comments or objections received during the public notice period will be considered in the final determination regarding this Water Pollution Control Permit. If the Division determines written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in this matter, the Administrator shall schedule a public hearing in accordance with the requirements of NAC 445A.405.

The draft Water Pollution Control Permit and all application documents are on file at the Division and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to NRS 445A.665. For more information, contact Bob Carlson at (775) 687-9401, toll free in Nevada (800) 992-0900, extension 4670, or visit our website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.html>